Appendix A.

1. ADDRESS READ BY MR. RAMANNA ON BEHALF OF THE GENERAL BODY OF MEMBERS.

1ST OCTOBER 1906.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,

I have been deputed in accordance with the resolution passed in the 2nd day preliminary meeting to make a reply to Your Excellency's address which we had the privilege to hear now. I express on behalf of the native members of this assembly our deep felt gratitude for Their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princes of Wales for their kindly accepting the invitation made by our beloved Maharaja and paying a visit to our historical and model state of Mysore, thereby having given the subjects of our beloved Maharaja an opportunity to show their deep felt loyalty and sincere devotion to the British throne. This year we apprehended that we would have the same bad season as was the case last year, and fortunately by the timely rains we had, our apprehensions have been removed. We take this opportunity of expressing our gratitude to His Highness the Maharaja and his Government for the kindly help given to the poor raiyats in the shape of partial remissions of Revenue in the Kolar and Tumkur Districts which suffered most. I am directed to place before Your Excellency three most important matters which vitally affect the welfare of the subjects of His Highness the Maharaja.

They are :—

Firstly.—Any scheme of Civil Service not confined to the subjects of His Highness the Maharaja is highly detrimental to the interests of His Highness' subjects and we earnestly pray that the same be so modified.

Secondly.—The Mining Regulation is subversive of the first principles of Criminal jurisprudence, law and equity and is sure to prove an engine of oppression in the hands of the Police. It curtails the liberty of the subjects and places restrictions on trade. Hence an amendment is absolutely needed.

Thirdly.—We pray that the proposed Regulation for the removal of disabilities arising from change of religion be dropped since the same is destructive of the religion, customs and social and family structure of the Hindu and Mahomedan subjects of His Highness the Maharaja who together form more than 5 out of 5½ millions of the subjects of the State.

In conclusion, on behalf of the members I thank Your Excellency for the address just now delivered and heartily wish that your administration be crowned with unmixed success and lead to the prosperity of the State May God the Almighty bless His Highness the Maharaja, his Government and his subjects and shower his choicest blessings upon them.

THE DEWAN'S REPLY TO THE ABOVE.

MR. RAMANNA,

I thank you in the name of His Highness' Government for the sentiments expressed by you on behalf of the Native Members of the Representative Assembly.

As regards the three subjects which you have specially brought to my notice you may rest assured that your representations on them will receive every consideration at the hands of Government.

I may be permitted to say however that the terms in which you refer to the Civil Service Scheme to the new Mines Regulation and to the question of removing disabilities of converts to Christianity are likely to mislead the public and create an impression that the assembly as a whole or the Indian section of it have already formed an opinion. In the first place, as regards the last or third question no action has been lately taken by Government nor has any reference been made to it in the address. As regards the other two questions, I am personally aware of their being differences of opinion among the Native Representatives themselves. I have no objection to the two being made subject of discussions at our sittings and I promise you and the other members every facility for full discussion and every consideration to your representation.